

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Thakkar

Appl. No.: 10/599854

Filed: October 11, 2006

For: Flexible Nail Assembly for Fractures of Long
Bones

Art Unit: UNASSIGNED

Examiner: UNASSIGNED

Atty. Docket: TKKR-001

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed below on an attached Form PTO-1449 is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication and foreign patent is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information (e.g., abstract and/or translation) in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. The Examiner is requested to initial and return it in accordance with MPEP §609.

This statement is not intended to represent that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56. Applicant reserves the right to establish patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information is not enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

X This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- | | | |
|-----------|-----|--|
| <u>X</u> | (1) | It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date; OR |
| <u> </u> | (2) | It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage; OR |
| <u>X</u> | (3) | It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits. |

— 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1) three months beyond the filing date of a national application; (2) three months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; or (3) the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, then:

- a certification as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **or**
— a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

— 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, but before payment of the issue fee, then:

- A. a certification as specified in §1.97(e) is submitted herewith; **and**
B. a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d) requesting consideration of this statement is submitted herewith; **and**
C. a fee of \$130.00 as set forth in §1.17(i)(1) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature

Date: October 25, 2006

Printed Name: Narendra Reddy Thappeta
Attorney for Applicant
Registration Number: 41,416